



2003 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 8

January 23, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives YOUNG, COGGS, MORRIS, TURNER, A. WILLIAMS, COLON, GRONEMUS, BOYLE, BLACK, TRAVIS, BIES, SINICKI, LADWIG, HAHN, KREUSER, SCHNEIDER, MILLER, NISCHKE, GUNDERSON, KRUG, OTT, PLOUFF, RICHARDS, POCAN, JESKEWITZ and PETROWSKI, cosponsored by Senators MOORE, GEORGE, CARPENTER, RISSER, WIRCH, ERPENBACH and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Lloyd A. Barbee.

2 Whereas, Lloyd A. Barbee was born on August 17, 1925, in Memphis,
3 Tennessee, and died on December 29, 2002, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and

4 Whereas, he graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis;
5 and

6 Whereas, Mr. Barbee earned a B.A. degree in economics in 1949 from LeMoyne
7 College in Memphis and a J.D. degree in 1956 from the University of
8 Wisconsin-Madison; and

9 Whereas, he served his country as a member of the U.S. Navy during World War
10 II from 1943 to 1946; and

11 Whereas, Lloyd Augustus Barbee was a tireless freedom fighter, civil rights
12 leader, civil rights attorney, Wisconsin state representative, professor of Africology
13 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and role model of moral and ethical
14 behavior for the entire world; and

1 Whereas, he also taught at the University of Wisconsin Law School and the
2 Bronx Community College of the City University of New York; and

3 Whereas, according to the Wisconsin Lawyer: “Lloyd Barbee is probably the
4 most important figure of the 20th century in Wisconsin civil rights.”; and

5 Whereas, Mr. Barbee served as chairman of the Milwaukee United School
6 Integration Committee (MUSIC); and

7 Whereas, in 1965, Mr. Barbee filed the lawsuit in federal court on behalf of both
8 African American children and white children that led to the ruling that Milwaukee’s
9 public schools were unconstitutionally segregated; and

10 Whereas, from 1969 to 1973, he served as president of Freedom Through
11 Equality, a Milwaukee group established to reform laws detrimental to the poor; and

12 Whereas, Mr. Barbee was first elected to the Wisconsin assembly in 1964
13 (Milwaukee, 6th — later renumbered the 18th — Assembly District), serving in the
14 1965 through 1975 sessions; and

15 Whereas, during his tenure in the legislature, Mr. Barbee quickly earned a
16 reputation as a stalwart advocate for social change, even when there was little
17 chance for political success; and

18 Whereas, he introduced legislation to repeal laws on what he called “victimless
19 crimes” and was an early advocate for open housing and eliminating job
20 discrimination; and

21 Whereas, Mr. Barbee received numerous awards and honors, including the
22 American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin *Eunice Z. Edgar Award for Lifetime*
23 *Civil Liberties Achievement* and the Wisconsin Association of Minority Attorneys
24 *Award for Inspirational Leadership and Outstanding Dedication*; and

1 Whereas, in 1999, Mayor John Norquist named a Milwaukee street “Barbee
2 Street” in Mr. Barbee’s honor; and

3 Whereas, Mr. Barbee received an honorary doctoral degree in sociology from the
4 University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee in 2001; now, therefore, be it

5 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
6 Wisconsin legislature commend the devoted public service that Lloyd A. Barbee
7 contributed to this state and his community, express their sorrow at his death, and
8 extend their condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

9 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
10 resolution to Mr. Barbee’s daughter, Daphne Eurydice Barbee-Wooten; to his sons,
11 Finn Thacher Barbee and Rustam Aaron Barbee; and to his brother, Quinten Barbee.

12

(END)